/ SEP 2 3 2002

PATENT

2813

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yu-Chi Sun et al.

Application No: 10/016,896

Filed:

December 13, 2001

For: "A METHOD OF FORMING A SELF-

ALIGNED CONTACT HOLE"

Erraminar, Mauron M

Examiner: Nguyen, Thanh T.

Re: RESPONSE TO

Group Art No.:

RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT Our Ref: B-4418 619378-8

Date: September 17, 2002

J. Mchailler J. Mchailler

Honorable Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Official Action dated August 22, 2002. Please enter the following amendments and remarks into the prosecution history of the subject application without prejudice. The amendments made herein are for purposes of clarity only.

09/30/2002 JHCHILLA 00000006 120415 10016896

01 FC:103

36.00 CH

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new Claims 16 and 22, which are set forth in the enclosed Appendix A.

The Applicants previously paid for up to three independent claims and up to 20 total claims. Therefore, a fee is due for two excess independent claims and a check in the amount of \$168. is enclosed herewith.

09/25/2002 AUSMAN1 00000083 10016896

01 FC:102

168.00 OP